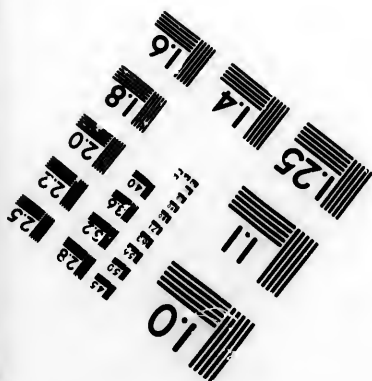
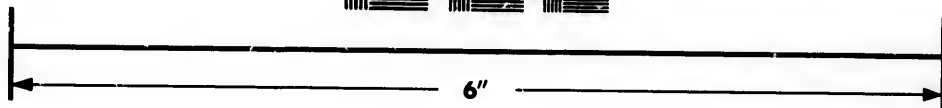
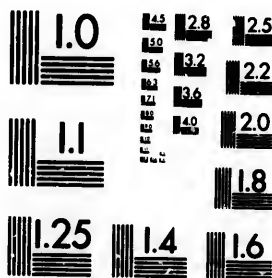


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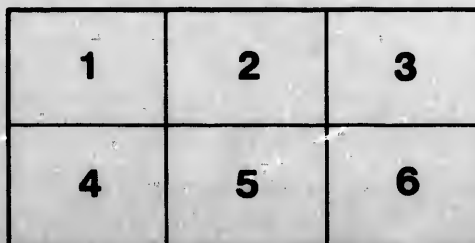
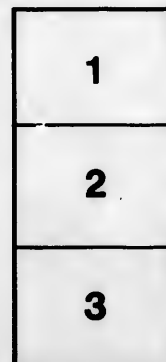
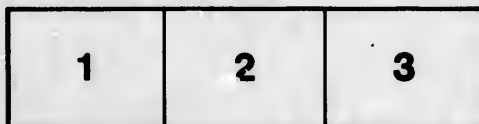
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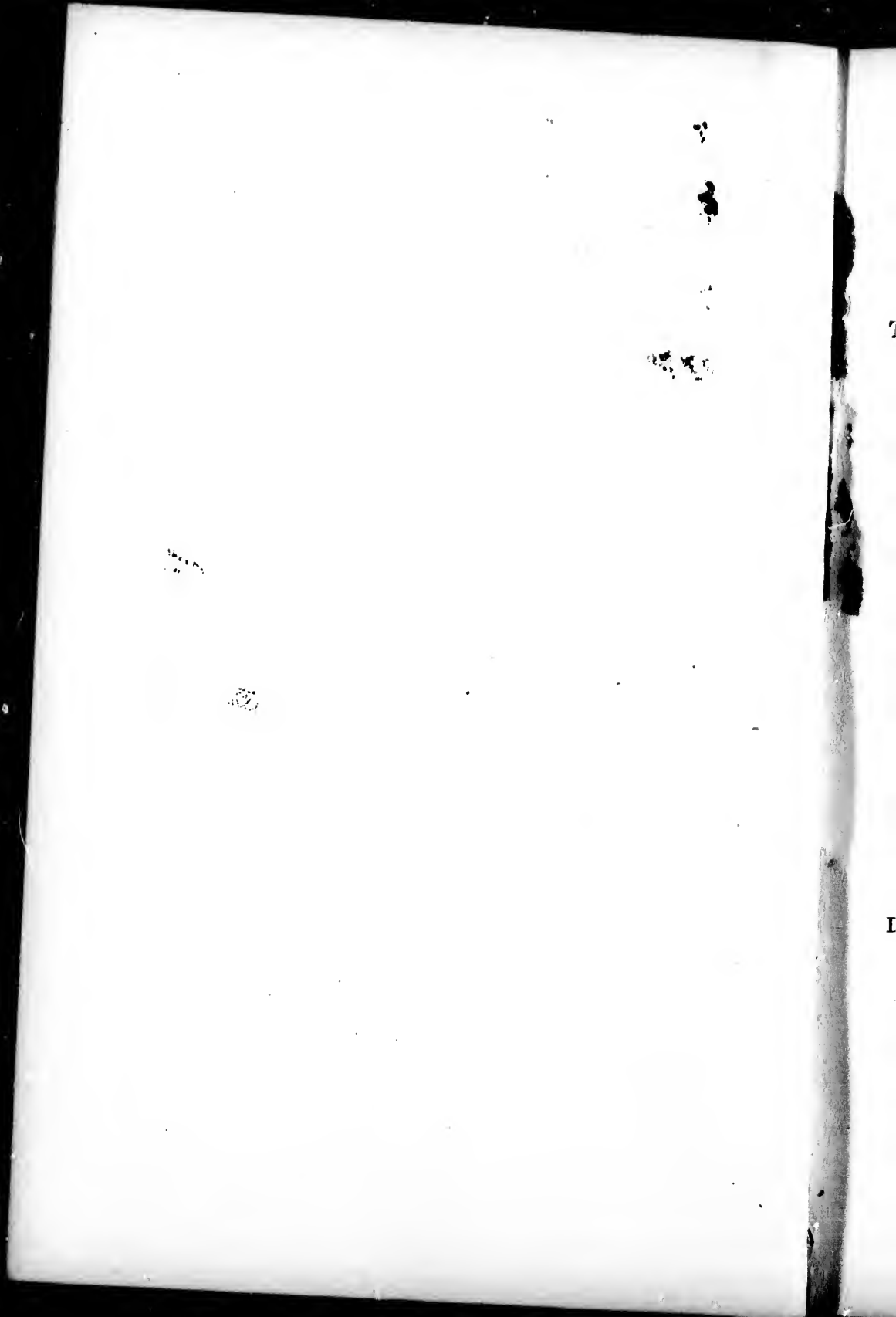
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LETTER

FROM

THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE EARL OF ZETLAND, M. W.,
GRAND MASTER OF THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF
ANTIEN FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF
ENGLAND, ON THE QUESTION OF MASONIC
INDEPENDENCE IN CANADA ;

AND

REPLY

BY

BROTHER THOMAS DOUGLAS HARINGTON, P. G. M., &c.

~~~~~  
DISTRIBUTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE CRAFT.  
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TORONTO:
PRINTED AT THE CANADA GAZETTE OFFICE.

1858.

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TO THE ANTIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND
ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA :

MY BRETHREN,

I have received a Communication from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, which he recommends for my and your consideration, and to which I have deemed it a duty to reply.

With a view of disseminating throughout the Province Lord Zetland's ideas upon the important question of Masonic Independence therein,—of pointing out where and in what way, in my opinion, we are neither fairly nor justly treated,—and also of endeavouring to bring about, what we must all wish for, a firmly cemented Union of the Fraternity under one Grand Lodge of Canada, I have taken upon myself thus to circulate amongst you His Lordship's letter and my reply.

I trust that you will not look upon this as presumption on my part ; but believe that I am actuated by a most earnest desire to have all existing differences of opinion and causes of antagonism removed and consigned to their proper oblivion. To many of you I am personally known.

We must, if our Order is to thrive here, form one United Body. It is an undeniable truth, that there is a certain amount of any thing but Brotherly feeling now agitating us ; and unless we are very careful, and do not, with all our hearts, study and strive to "*bear and forbear*," the spark will burst into a flame. I do hope that we may all labour together,—

remembering the rich and varied lessons inculcated by our Institution, and especially the principal step of our Masonic ladder—*Charity!*

I remain,

Your faithful Brother,

T. DOUGLAS HARINGTON.

Toronto, 21st February, 1858.

by our
Masonic

TON.

[Copy.]

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON,

9th December, 1857.

SIR AND BROTHER,

The Grand Secretary has laid before me your letter, received November 27th, in which—

1. You tender the resignation of your office as Provincial Grand Master, and Grand Superintendent of the District of Quebec.

2. You state that you firmly believe that prompt action on the part of the Grand Lodge in September, 1856, would have preserved Canada, although some Brethren would not have returned to their allegiance.

3. That you have been driven to throw off your allegiance.

4. You transmit a Copy of the Proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, now calling itself the Antient Grand Lodge of Canada; and refer to letters received from England, and to my words about the return of Warrants.

5. You forward a memorial from the Lodges of the District of Quebec, recommending a Brother to be appointed Provincial Grand Master.

6. You express an earnest hope that recognition will be accorded at once, and that a fourth Grand Lodge will be acknowledged.

B

7. You offer yourself as Representative of the Grand Lodge of England, in the so-called "Antient Grand Lodge of Canada."

For the purpose of convenience, I propose to notice these *seriatim*.

1. Whilst I accept with regret the resignation of your office of Provincial Grand Master and Grand Superintendent for the District of Quebec, I acknowledge with pleasure and satisfaction the courteous and masonic feeling which is expressed in your letter.

2. Upon a review of all the circumstances, I cannot bring myself to believe that that which you describe as the present "unfortunate and conflicting condition of Freemasonry in Canada," would have been prevented, had the propositions which I thought it right to make to Grand Lodge in March last, been made in the September preceding. When I consider that the announcement of the steps which I, as Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge were willing to take for the relief of the inconveniences existing in Canada, was made known to you in March last; that those steps included, in spirit, and in fact, the granting to the Canadian Masons, every thing which they prayed for, except independence of their mother Grand Lodge; and when I learn, as I now do, that with this knowledge in full view, 34 Lodges agreed in September following to throw off their allegiance, I cannot do otherwise than come to the conclusion that there are, and have been from the commencement, other and internal causes of dissension amongst our Canadian Brethren which have, more than the inconveniences and delay arising on this side of the water, led to the separation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, and the complication of difficulties in which the Brethren of that Province are now

involved. It appears to me that concessions, which were acknowledged to be ample, could not be "too late" when made many months before the separation took place.

3. The movement towards Independence which commenced so early as 1852, before those circumstances had occurred, which it has been alleged brought it into existence, did not, I have reason to believe, originate with the English Lodges ; and I have good grounds for believing, that, even up to the present time, but very few Lodges, holding under the Grand Lodge of England, have given their adhesion to the so-called Independent Grand Lodge. Be that however as it may, it is clear now from the Documents laid before me, that besides those who have not wavered from, or who have returned to their allegiance, no less a number than 34 Lodges, constituting together a very large majority of all the Lodges existing in the Province, could hardly be said to be driven by a small minority into a secession from the Parent body.

4. I have read with regret and pain the details of the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West in September last. I know of no letters emanating from authority in this country, nor of any words of mine which by possibility could be construed into justifying, far less recommending, the proceedings which it is stated then took place. I regret that any one should have been so ill-advised as to write such letters ; or that any Brother in Canada should have been deceived by them. I regret also that the expressions used by me should have been so much misunderstood. The term "rebellious" seeming to have given offence, I stated "that I applied that term to Brethren who had thrown "off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England ; and "that without returning the Warrants they held under it ; "and I thought that Grand Lodge would agree with me that "I did not unjustly apply that term"—I recommended no

course of action then—I give no opinion now—but thus much I may say, that I see a wide distinction between the breaking up of a Lodge and the surrender of its Warrant by the free will of the Brethren composing it; and the subsequent formation of new Lodges under another authority—and the formation of an Independent and antagonistic Jurisdiction—by those who are still the holders of the Warrants of that Grand Lodge whose authority they are determined to subvert, whilst they are yet under a solemn vow to support, uphold, and maintain it. I have read with astonishment, not unmingled with indignation, the following words said to have been uttered by the Provincial Grand Master :

“ The Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West having
 “ now declared its independence, I, as the Representative of
 “ the M. W. Grand Master of England, now direct and
 “ require, that every Master or Delegate, holding any War-
 “ rant of a Lodge from the Grand Lodge of England, do now
 “ return the same to me, in accordance with the suggestion
 “ of the Grand Master of England, contained in his Address
 “ to the Grand Lodge on the 4th of March last.

I am bound to say that in thus (and in my name) directing and requiring Brethren to surrender their Warrants, the Provincial Grand Master not only assumed a power which I, as Grand Master had no authority either to exercise myself, or delegate to him, but which is directly opposed to the very essence and spirit of the Constitutions.

5. Enclosing a Memorial from the Lodges of the District of Quebec, you suggest that I should consider the propriety, or otherwise, of appointing a Provincial Grand Master to preside over only three Lodges. The Lodges in the District of Québec are the same in number as they were during the time when you presided over them. Remaining faithful in

their allegiance, and having signified their wish to have a Provincial Grand Master appointed as your successor, in accordance with the proposition made by me in March last, I can have no hesitation in approving of the Brother whom they have recommended to me, and I have accordingly appointed Brother James Dean to succeed you as Provincial Grand Master for Quebec and Three-Rivers.

6. Whilst I abstain from giving an opinion whether any, or what circumstances can absolve Masons from their moral obligation, and justify them in separation from their mother Grand Lodge, I conceive it to be my duty to point out that "in the present unfortunate and conflicting condition of "Freemasonry in Canada," it is impossible that I could, consistently with my duty as Grand Master, and the obligations of my office, recommend to the Grand Lodge the recognition of either of the Bodies which have recently assumed the power of erecting themselves into a Grand Lodge. To do so would be inconsistent with the first principles of Masonic Unity. Of the Lodges existing in the Province of Canada, and holding under the Grand Lodge of England, the Warrants of 7 have been returned by those who have joined the Independent Grand Lodge—whilst 34 have been returned by those who have joined the Antient Grand Lodge—leaving a large number of Lodges, of which some are known to remain firm in their allegiance, and of the secession of others there is no official record.

It is plain that the Grand Lodge of England has no right or title to absolve from their allegiance the Brethren who are anxious to preserve it—it is equally clear that it is the duty, the sacred duty of Grand Master and Grand Lodge to support them in maintaining their allegiance, and in preserving inviolate their obligation, to their parent Grand Lodge. Bearing in mind that there are already two self-erected Grand

Lodges in Canada—that there are many Lodges which have not joined either—that there are others who having never wavered in their fidelity pray to have a Provincial Grand Master appointed in the place of those who have seceded from them, and desire to remain under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, I cannot think that any reasonable Mason will, upon a calm and deliberate review of the facts, come to any other conclusion than that recognition is impossible ; and that even were it accorded, it would lead only to increased confusion.

7. You offer to accept the Office of Representative of the Grand Lodge of England in the “ Antient Grand Lodge of “ Canada.”—For the reasons stated in the preceding paragraph, you will at once perceive that that is impossible.

I cannot contemplate without the deepest concern the separation of so many Lodges from the Parent Body ; and the more so when it is attempted to be shewn that the conduct of the Grand Lodge of England has driven them to that course. When I reflect that separation has taken place at a period many months subsequent to the time when all reasonable complaints have been remedied, and when effectual means had been taken to prevent their recurrence—when I know that many of the delays complained of by Lodges originated, not from the neglect of the Grand Lodge in England, but from the neglect of the Provincial Officers to forward Returns to London entrusted to them for that purpose—when I remember that the neglect of the duties of his office by the Provincial Grand Master, whom I appointed, has been one of the main causes of dissatisfaction most prominently urged in official correspondence, and insisted on even in minute detail in memorials from Canada—when I remember that in consequence of such alleged neglect the Brethren desired to be permitted to elect their own Provincial Grand

Master, and that such permission has been virtually conceded to them—and when I learn that the very first act of the new Body has been to elect to supreme office, the very Brother whose conduct has been so severely arraigned as leading to the difficulties complained of, I am irresistibly led to the conclusion, that there are other causes than those which have been already declared, which caused the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West to throw off the authority of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of England, who have always felt, and still continue to feel a deep and affectionate interest in the welfare of their Brethren in Canada.

Commending these matters to your earnest consideration, and that of your Brethren,

I am, Sir and Brother,
Yours fraternally,

ZETLAND,
G. M.

To
THOMAS DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Esq.

[COPY.]

TORONTO, CANADA,
1st February, 1858.

MY LORD AND M. W. BROTHER,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, dated the 9th ultimo, accepting my resignation of the offices of P. G. M. and P. G. Superintendent of Quebec, &c., and entering largely into the present condition of Canadian Masonry. Before I proceed to reply in detail to

the various important passages of your Lordship's letter, allow me to thank you for the personal kindness and courtesy you have extended to me, and to assure you that the perusal of your letter affected me deeply, and that whatever may be the result of the present antagonism between G. L. and the Craft here, I shall ever feel grateful to your Lordship as well on my own account, as for the interest manifested and the earnestness evinced by you, in every line of that letter, for the arrangement of the existing Masonic differences. But I am constrained nevertheless to repeat that my convictions remain unchanged, as to the necessity for self-government here, and that altho' there may for a time be stray Lodges in Canada, hailing as heretofore, the majority of the Craft neither can nor will consent again to acknowledge allegiance to the G. L. of England. Of this I feel assured, and my assertions are endorsed by many excellent and influential Brethren, who, like myself, entertain a warm affectionate regard for the Old Country ; but who cannot shut their eyes to the plain fact, that it is only very recently that *the Colonies* have been looked upon as of so much consequence in the preservation of the "*Unity of English Freemasonry.*" Your Lordship must acknowledge that for many years past they have only been regarded in a pecuniary light—that is—the annual revenue derived from them has kept them from nearly entire oblivion. As for a voice at the fountain head, that has never been thought of, and "*money*" and "*obedience*" have been the principal results derived from their connexion with the G. L. of Great Britain and Ireland. Your Lordship will also, I am sure, acknowledge that they have been parcelled out between three sovereign authorities in a way that must, sooner or later, lead to confusion, and a necessity for the establishment of one local Head. I know that Canada has called the attention of England to the equal Sovereignty of Scotland and Ireland, and that the adoption of some plan has been asked for,

by which no separate Lodges should be constituted by one part of the Empire, without the concurrence of the other two ; but the subject has never yet been deemed of sufficient importance to attract attention, or elicit a reply, and the result has been, that when individual Brethren have become dissatisfied, or fancied themselves aggrieved, they have been accustomed to retire from their Lodges, and either become Joining Members of another hailing from a different source, or have applied for Warrants, which have never been refused. For instance,—English Masons have procured Charters from the G. L. of Scotland and Ireland, without either of the latter Bodies deeming it at all requisite to appeal to England for proofs of good standing or any other essential, and in this loose manner a standard of *Independence* (for it may surely be classed as such) has been set up for many years. This irregularity could only be rectified by a Sovereign G. L. on the spot. Another important particular, I wish to draw your Lordship's attention to, is, that a large proportion of the Brethren here are native Canadians ; who, as such, have none of the old recollections and sympathies to bind them ; but, on the contrary, and it is natural, are imbued with a love of their native soil and Institutions, and deem it derogatory to be ruled by extraneous power—from connexion with which they derive no apparent advantage—in whose proceedings they have no real voice—with which it is ten chances to one if they ever have any personal communication—and for which, as I shall endeavour to show your Lordship before I conclude this letter, they have been gradually compelled to feel less and less respect. There are likewise many Brethren, who are citizens of the U. S. of America, who have settled in Canada for their own private interests,—but who have no particular liking for England in any way. I have alluded to the foregoing points, because they are uppermost in my mind, and I think them of paramount importance as a

prelude to my replying to your Lordship's communication in detail. I have to beg your indulgence for the length of this letter,—but I find it impossible to do justice to the subject at issue, unless I bring before your notice every thing that bears upon it,—and to compress would be to mislead your Lordship. I deeply regret that our recognition has not been effected by the Documents *already* sent home, and the evidence which *they* afford, that the “*Antient G. L. of Canada*” certainly has not been actuated by factious or ambitious motives, (as has been hinted,) but by a “*stern necessity*” in adopting the course it has. I hope the G. L. of England will yet see the matter in that light. There is no necessity for me to trouble your Lordship with a repetition of the “*grievances*” under which the entire Canadian Craft has laboured, for they have been fully and formally specified in the Memorial already sent home by the late P. G. L. of Upper Canada ; but to enable you to refer to them, I have appended a Copy of that Memorial to this communication. I take it for granted that a copy of your Lordship's letter to me is fyled in the G. Secretary's Office, for the information of G. Lodge.

With reference therefore to *paragraph 2*, of that letter, I must again express my conviction, that had the concessions proposed by your Lordship in *March* last, been propounded in *September*, 1856, (that is, six months earlier than they were,) the present condition of Freemasonry in Canada *might* have been prevented. If you will be so good as to refer to the Memorial (page 5), you will find that the half year, suffered to elapse without notice, was pregnant with events, bearing direct and unmistakeable issue upon “*Independence.*” The Craft here had nothing for its guidance but your Lordship's personal communications to G. L., and they were such (see 4th June, 1856,) as to call forth in the following October, resolutions of the very strongest nature, and “*disapproval of the unjust*

and uncourteous treatment experienced at the hands of the G. M. of England," and it was firmly stated that the time had been allowed to pass when *moderate concessions* would have more than satisfied the Masons of Canada, and that less than *entire independence* would not allay the excitement, &c., and recognition was asked for on behalf of the P. G. L. as a G. L. This was adopted in January, 1857, and sent home—and in March following your Lordship officially made known your plan for restoring peace in Canada, and the concessions that you considered would bring about that desirable object. But previous silence and apparent carelessness had done their work by that time, and (I write it with all due respect) your proposal was not *then* looked upon as a boon, but as having been forced by the pressure of current events. The Brethren knew *then* that their Memorial had not even been read in G. L., but had been referred, or handed over to the new Colonial Board ; and it is certain that *no definitive reply has yet been vouchsafed* to that respectful document ; although the G. Registrar at the Quarterly Communication of the G. L. of England, on the 2nd September last, somewhat disingenuously declares that such a statement is inaccurate. Your Lordship's letter (in triplicate), is not a reply, for the concluding portion of it only makes mention of the Memorial having been presented at a *late period* of the evening—that no discussion took place thereon, and it was referred to the Colonial Board, *in consequence* of the announcement you had been previously pleased to make,—and the Colonial Board had no power to send one. Its duty was simply to report to your Lordship and G. L. In the face of all that is reported to have occurred, it would puzzle any body to remove the impression, that the Craft is really governed by the Dais, and those upon it,—not by the Brethren at large. Your Lordship's concessions *would* perhaps have been deemed "*ample*," but for the fatal and unfortunate delay, and *before* the adoption

of the Memorial ; but they were never so acknowledged subsequently ;—and whether made before or after, you were ever careful not to embarrass any successor you might have, and the proposed plan, although binding on you, would not be upon him,—and it might happen therefore that the evil day was only retarded for a season. In this paragraph also, your Lordship has been pleased to state that there must have been internal dissensions in Canada, which have led to the existing difficulties, and that they do not arise from delay and inconvenience on your side of the water. I hope to prove that dissatisfaction (not dissension) has been occasioned by parties in London, and who have been and are intimately connected with G. L. itself—and I believe I express the opinion of *the two Canadian Independent Bodies*.

With respect to *paragraph 3*, of your Lordship's letter, I will simply say, that the Independent movement commenced as early as **1850** not 1852, and that as regards the adhesion of English Lodges to the existing "*Independent G. L.*," I am satisfied that had the P. G. L. of Canada West wavered in its resolution after what had passed, the P. G. M. would not have been left with a sufficiency of Lodges wherewith to constitute a P. G. L. Such was the pretty general and openly expressed opinion in all quarters, and by the Brethren at large, and I have no doubt that they would have taken Warrants from that Independent G. L.

I now beg permission to refer to *paragraph 4*, of your Lordship's communication, and it is an important one. You regret the proceedings of the P. G. L. of Canada West, and know of no letters emanating from England, which by possibility could be construed favorably to those proceedings. I will quote *from one* received by me, which *could not fail* to exercise an influence here. It is from Brother W. W. Beach, who is, I believe, known to your Lordship,—is now a

Member of the Colonial Board,—and was in this country. He writes, under date 10th June last, as follows :

“ I took the first opportunity in my power of seeing the G. M. He had *not leisure* to enter into the business but deputed the G. Registrar to meet me next day. I spent nearly two hours with him and placed the whole state of the case before him. He wished me to draw up a statement for the G. M. of the Masonic Affairs in Canada. I did so. I do not think I omitted any argument or position,—It was acknowledged,—but tho’ I begged that great haste might be used, nothing was done for several weeks. A Meeting was at length summoned of a few selected to consider the matter. It was found the day did not suit some one,—So it was put off. After the consultation, nothing was resolved on.—The G. Registrar, who is very reasonable, declares that it is impossible to constitute the P. G. L. into a G. L. by any act of the G. L. of England tho’ of course the *recognition* of it would be another question &c.”

Your Lordship cannot fail to see there was lukewarmness in some quarters at a time when Canada was looking with excessive anxiety for some kind of action at home ; so much so that the regular communication of the P. G. L. had been put off for a month to afford time, and enable G. L. to take up the business at its own meeting at the beginning of June. You will also, I think, agree that a very high officer did not absolutely discourage “*recognition*.” We were well aware here, that G. L. could not constitute us a G. L. and every Memorial has asked for “*recognition*” accordingly,—and we have endeavoured throughout to make our Independent formation as agreeable and affectionate towards the Mother Country as we could do, under the trying circumstances involved in the course we were compelled to adopt. To the last we turned to the Mother G. L. with a yearning affection—

clung to her Constitutions—elected her Chief Brother to preside over us—and begged her to consider that we had fought her battles, and retained our allegiance, in spite of neglect, carelessness, and silence, until self-respect would allow of no further adherence *as dependents*, and we had been taunted and ridiculed for what was called our slavish servility. But G. L. never manfully grappled with the question at issue,—has not up to this moment. She never defined the *Law* of the matter,—never gave instruction, or encouragement,—never attempted to inflict punishment on the Lodges and Brethren, who had unceremoniously severed their connexion with her,—never denounced them ;—but left us here to fight and disagree,—to break friendships,—to sever Masonic Connexions of long-standing ;—in short, to do what G. L. up to this moment, has not had the *moral courage* or *pluck* to do. And for what end ?—To preserve intact a tie, founded upon old memories and reminiscences, which a large proportion of Brethren, being native Canadians, never had any particular reason to treasure up in their hearts. G. L. would lose through the pocket—the Brethren here were likely to suffer in spirit, heart and affection. I could dilate upon this topic ; but must again refer to the Paragraph of your Lordship's letter, which is now under notice. I must do your Lordship justice. *You did* denounce the Independent G. L. as “ *Rebellious*,” altho' G. L. has never yet enunciated a dignified opinion at all. But why did you call that Body “ *rebellious* ” ? —Because—it had thrown off “ its allegiance to the G. L. of England, and that without “ *returning the Warrants it held*.” Your Lordship tells me that you recommended no course of action then—you give no opinion now. May I ask why you did not do so, or cause G. L. to act, instead of placing the Brethren in a false position here, and compelling them to assume the initiative ?—More than *two years* have elapsed since the formation of the Independent G. L. of Canada, and the then loyal Brethren can-

not point to one single letter of decided advice or instruction at this moment, as to the course they were to adopt towards that Body. Not one single Charter has ever been demanded,—not one single seceding Brother has been suspended from Masonic privileges,—not one atom of Masonic Law has been brought to bear, and even your Lordship's term of "*rebellious*," if we are to believe the only printed Periodical that comes *regularly* to this Province, viz : The F. M. Magazine, published in London,—was not suffered to be uttered by you in G. L. without a *sneer* !

Your Lordship states that you have felt astonishment, not unmingled with indignation, at the course pursued by the late P. G. M. of Upper Canada, in demanding the Warrants of the Lodges in your name. Will you be pleased to state what he ought to have done?—I was by Sir Allan MacNab's side, and can bear witness to his anxiety to act rightly. I am of course open to conviction, and we are all liable to error, but I believe I should have followed the same course, and so I told Sir Allan.—Your Lordship says, that you see a wide distinction between the breaking up of a Lodge, and the surrender of its Warrant by the free-will of the Brethren composing it, and the subsequent formation of new Lodges under another authority—and the formation of an Independent and antagonistic jurisdiction, who are still the holders of the Warrants of that G. L., whose authority they are determined to subvert &c. My Lord and M. W. Brother, the Lodges could not first be broken up, and the Warrants surrendered, or a G. L. could not have been constituted, for it is *Lodges*, not Brethren, who form the component parts of a G. L. Your Lordship likewise says that the P. G. M. not only assumed a power as your representative, which you had no authority to exercise yourself, but acted in direct opposition to the Constitutions—what do the Constitutions say?—*art : Private Lodges—Sect. 27.*

“ If a Lodge be dissolved, the Warrant shall be delivered
“ up to the G. Master, &c.”

Sect. 30 :—

“ If all the Members of a Lodge withdraw, the Warrant
“ becomes extinct.”

I would therefore ask your Lordship, *who* was the proper Officer to require the surrender of the Warrants of the Lodges, upon their formally declaring that they withdrew from under the jurisdiction of England, or, in other words, dissolved themselves, as far as their Charters were concerned, and received in lieu thereof Dispensations from their own local Head? Surely, the P. G. M. was bound to call for them, for the purpose of complying with the Constitutions, and restoring them to you, the G. M. Sir Allan MacNab, in common with the Brethren at large, could only understand by your Lordship's address to the G. L. of England, that after a declaration of Independence, the retention of *your* Warrants specially constituted an act of Rebellion,—and it was with direct allusion to your Lordship's own words, that the P. G. M. addressed the meeting as he did. Upon referring to the P. G. L. proceedings, you will observe, that in the concluding Address praying for recognition, the surrender of those Charters is specially mentioned, and their return asked for, that they might be cherished as mementos of the original source from whence we derived our Masonic existence, and which we regarded with warm affection, altho' we felt that self-government, from various causes, *was imperative*. The P. G. M. used no compulsion; but he had to exercise his discretion, and, in the absence of any advice or directions from the fountain head, *altho' the contemplated movement was known in London*, the course he pursued was certainly the most straightforward one, and, under the circumstances, more in accordance

with the Constitutions, as quoted above, than any other method would have been,—and I know that no Brother felt more acutely the painful position in which we were all placed than Sir Allan MacNab. My Lord, *it seems a “paradox”*—that the “*Independent G. L.*” should be denounced for withholding the *English Warrants*, and the “*Antient G. L. of C.*” for surrendering them.

Paragraph 5, of your Lordship’s communication, bears reference to Quebec, and the appointment of my successor, and I have of course nothing further to say, than again to express my sense of the kind courtesy evinced by you, when accepting my resignation of my high and honorable offices. I will only remind your Lordship that, altho’ you feel bound to appoint another P. G. M. without loss of time for *that District*, the nomination of a P. G. Superintendent for *Canada West* has been urged upon you time after time without success. The English Lodges are certainly the same in number as when I was appointed ; but Brethren *are wavering*, and have been so for some time—passing events have greatly unsettled them. There is a Scotch, and also an Irish Lodge at Quebec now, and the latter was organized by *English Masons* for the open and express purpose of being *free* from *English rule*, and at this time many Brethren are subscribing Members of all three portions of the Empire, and are therefore tolerably independent when they choose. Quebec and Montreal are jealous of each other, and both are so of Upper Canada. Your Lordship will not probably, under such circumstances, be disposed to place implicit trust in any deep-rooted affection for English Masonic Rule. I think, as I once before stated to you, that it is now a question of time only.

I will now turn to *paragraph 6*, of your letter. Your Lordship abstains from offering any opinion, whether any, or what

circumstances can absolve Masons from their moral obligation, and justify them in separating from their Mother G. L. I assure you that the length of time suffered to elapse here before the present decided step was adopted, and the patience shown under neglect and apparent indifference, as detailed in the Memorials from Upper Canada, have been the result of extreme sensitiveness on that very point,—coupled with ancient affection. While care has been taken to point out the many causes of dissatisfaction, recognition of *future* independent government has been studiously asked for, and has formed the steady prayer, and it was not till the Brethren found that neither G. M. nor G. L. appeared disposed to take up this prayer openly and definitively,—that their respectful Memorials were not read in G. L.,—that month after month glided by, and the important question at issue continued to be delayed, or, if brought forward in G. L., only resulted in debates and proceedings quite disgraceful to such a Body as the G. L. of England,—that they began to and at last did make up their minds, that there was a limit to even their moral obligation as Masons,—that further petitioning would be servility, and that they were better able, and had a clear right to govern themselves, and *fair warning* was sent home of the course they would in self-respect undoubtedly pursue. That Brethren in England, however much they, like us, might *regret* separation, did not deem independent government a violation of Masonic moral obligation, may be gleaned from the proceedings of G. L. itself, and the fact that one *plain* notice of motion for *recognition was given* by Brother The Earl of Carnarvon, in whom your Lordship has confidence, and who, when visiting a Lodge at Stonehouse, in a speech which, the reporter says, was greeted with rounds of applause and listened to with earnest attention, expressed himself thus emphatically in relation to Canada. Alluding to the concessions announced, he added :

“ He could not disguise that these concessions came tardily, “ that the feeling in Canada in favor of independence had “ grown very strong, and that it was more than doubtful if “ their Colonial supremacy could now be preserved. He was “ afraid that in this matter they had gone too near that fatal “ rock ‘*too late*,’ which had shipwrecked so many empires, “ dynasties and governments.”

His Lordship, unhappily, had divined the truth !

You, M. W. G. M., declare that recognition of either of the Bodies, which have recently assumed the power of erecting themselves into a G. L., is impossible, and that even were it accorded, it would lead only to increased confusion. No Brethren lament more sincerely the state of Masonry in this Province than those residing there, who have been all along the real sufferers, and they have shown this by their actions and their urgent appeals to England to remedy it. I believe I echo their sentiments by repudiating the justice of any attempt to fasten the blame upon them. The documents they have drawn up show, in truthful language, who were the originators of the confusion, and I would ask your Lordship certain plain questions : Why has not the course adopted by the G. L. of Ireland been solemnly protested against, and why, when that Sovereign Body upheld and encouraged, *by recognition*, those *English Lodges* which first withdrew from allegiance to you, did you continue on the same terms of intimacy as before, when you could not be blind to the serious importance of the proceedings of Ireland, and must have been conscious that half a victory was thereby gained by those whom your Lordship simply styled “*rebellious*” ? It is asserted that the G. L. of Ireland did seek information from England ; but, like other correspondents, it met with no notice, and therefore acted as it thought best. Whether this be true or not, the recognition by a part of the empire, and the mutual

appointment of Representatives by that portion and the seceding Body, must have had a damaging effect on the permanent continuation of your Masonic supremacy here. Yet, I believe the G. L. of England has not ventured any objection or remonstrance. Again, permit me to ask, why was the first Body of the Seceders here so indulgently let off,—while the late P. G. L. of Canada West., after using every exertion to preserve its connexion with England intact—only succumbing to an imperious necessity—and to the last moment evincing an untiring anxiety to carry out its separate and independent organization in such a manner as to show, in all future times, that it was a *Child of the Old Country*,—is severely reproached, and taxed with all manner of wickedness? There must be some hidden reason for such manifest injustice. My conscientious impression is, that under all the circumstances, and taking into consideration all the difficulties, and the causes for complaint, which your Lordship confesses were not unfounded, recognition might and ought to have been conceded. The only true course for the two separate Independent G. L. now to adopt, is to unite closely, and trust that no harrassing impediments may be thrown in their path, so as to prevent their working harmoniously and resolutely for the good of Our Order. My Lord, the chief Masonic connexion that this Province *must* cultivate is with our neighbours in the United States, because with them our intercourse is constant, and it is an ominous fact, that the G. L. of nearly every State has already acknowledged the independent organization, or is prepared to do so. In affairs of *State*, Canada is virtually independent, for no British Statesman would attempt to interfere with her local legislation. In *Church* affairs she is the same, for the right to elect Bishops of the Established Church of England and Ireland is accorded. Why not, then, the same thing as regards *Masonry*? I think the propriety of it is more obvious in the latter case, because in the two first

named, the Sovereign is the undoubted and *sole Head* ; but the G. L. of England only holds a divided authority in the Colonies, in conjunction with Scotland and Ireland, and she could not complain, if every Lodge working under her Warrant, chose to return it, and determine to hold under one of the others. At least she has not objected, when such instances have taken place.

Finally—as regards *Paragraph 7*, of your Lordship's letter. Should the time shortly arrive, when *one* United Sovereign G. L. of Canada is established, and to accomplish that end, the Brethren will, I hope strenuously exert themselves, I shall ever be at your Lordship's disposal, as your Representative to look after English interests if honored by the Office, and consider myself, as a Past P. G. M. of your appointing, always at your service, and I shall never forget the kindness you have extended to me. I am sure your Lordship gives utterance to your own true and honorable feelings, when you say that you feel the deepest concern. But in justice to the Brethren (myself included) I must protest against that concern being aggravated by "*attempts*" on our part to shift the blame to the G. L. of England. Most assuredly the *proofs* adduced from hence must carry conviction, that our charges are *just ones*, and it is ungenerous, at this the eleventh hour, to endeavour *to make us the aggressors*, when there has not been the slightest hint of this before, and we are censured for not being satisfied with ample "*concessions*." There would be no need of concessions if we had only *attempted to show*, and had *failed to prove* that the conduct of the G. L. of England had *driven* us to the present extreme course. My Lord, altho' separation has, as you write, taken place subsequently to what you call the remedy of all reasonable complaints, you had previous plain warning that the time was gone by when moderate concessions would have been satisfactory—valuable time had been frittered away and

could not be recalled,—patience and hope had become exhausted,—and you could not have been *surprised* at your proposals not being deemed a remedy for restoring to its normal state the Craft in Canada. Your Lordship says, that you know that many of the delays complained of by Lodges, originated from the neglect of Provincial Officers. I know nothing of this myself,—but it is indignantly and positively contradicted. This is another new charge, made at a late hour, and the Provincial Officers justly complain at its having been held back. The G. Secretary's Office, they say, is the Augean Stable that required cleaning, and that its waste paper Basket could for years have told tales. My Lord, I was conversing lately with a Brother not long from London, and who says he is or was a member of a Red Apron Lodge,—an old friend of his, and an attendant at G. L. designated its proceedings for some time past as a solemn farce, and London Free Masonry—as a peculiar system of eating and drinking, veiled with a Table Cloth, and illustrated by knives and forks!—I dare say that I am not the only one to whom this has been stated, and whether correct or not, the impression left must be injurious.

The deductions your Lordship draws from the Election of Sir Allan MacNab are hardly generous or correct. Altho' he seldom attended to the duties of his Office, and was not possessed of much Masonic knowledge, as he will readily acknowledge, yet he was not the less personally popular, and had excuses to offer, which many P. G. M. in England had not, viz: very many and urgent public affairs to keep him continually busy, and for some time past very indifferent health, and he had appointed a Deputy who never neglected his duty. It was the principle, not the man the Brethren objected to. If your Lordship will refer to the accompanying memorial, you will at once see, that the main object of the

insertion of Sir Allan's name was not to speak prejudicially of him, but to defend the Deputy, Brother Ridout, from your own remarks of his having exercised undue authority in carrying on the affairs of his District. When it was finally resolved that nothing but entire independence would allay the excitement here, the P. G. L. determined to make choice of Sir Allan MacNab for the following reasons. First—They knew that he was on the point of leaving this Province for England, never probably to return, and as he was much respected and personally regarded, the Brethren neither could nor would take their farewell of him, by making their last formal act a personal slight. Secondly—His tenure of Office was only to last for a broken period, when another election would take place. And thirdly—The Antient G. L. was anxious to show all the respect it could to your Lordship and the G. L. of England, and by adopting your nominee for first G. M., as well as your constitution for its Law, to make the change not so much a rending asunder of a close connection, as a transition from one description of Government to another, and had your Lordship been present, when all this was done, you would have heard warm expressions of regard and anxious prayers that the G. L. of England would meet us in the same Spirit, and understand the fraternal feelings by which we were guided. The Brethren did not certainly anticipate that their course of conduct would be tortured, and they themselves taunted with inconsistency, and other worse motives. It was intended that Sir Allan should himself, on his arrival in London, impart to you full information, and make known the wishes of the Craft here, and the Warrants and other documents were to have been forwarded by him ; but much to his own and our regret, his departure was delayed by unforeseen events, and it was not deemed advisable to defer their despatch ; but I hope that your Lordship and he have met, or will do so, and it would be satisfactory if Sir

Allan had an opportunity of perusing this letter, as he may incur your censure without really deserving it, or thoroughly comprehending the nature of your Lordship's expressed displeasure. For my own part, my Lord, I can only repeat what I said in my former communication, dated the 9th November last, viz: That I had no hesitation, when called upon to do so, about installing Sir Allan, and that under all the circumstances, I really deemed myself (as I stated to the Brethren) acting more as the Deputy of the G. M. of England than otherwise.

I think I have now noticed the prominent points of your communication, and I have taken upon myself to do this, because your Lordship commended them to my earnest consideration, and that of my Brethren, to whom I shall submit your letter and this reply, and I imagine that you intended to invite the fullest correspondence.

I told you in a former Paragraph, that I hoped to prove that dissatisfaction here had been occasioned by parties in London, and connected with G. L. itself. I propose now to do this by way of conclusion, and trust that your Lordship will not feel annoyed at me, if I place, as I conceive it to be my bounden duty, offensive expressions before your eyes. Your Lordship probably may not see the "*London F. M. Monthly Magazine*," published by Brother Warren, a prominent attendant upon G. L. meetings, altho' it has been lately formally authorized by you to publish G. L. proceedings; but it has a large circulation here, and is greedily perused, as the scanty official reports emanate from the G. Secretary at very uncertain times. We would have known very little of what was occurring at Head Quarters, had it not been for the Magazine. I will not refer back beyond the *December Number for 1855*, and I commence there, because it heralds the formation of the Independent G. L. under Brother Wilson.

There is an Editorial, entitled, "*Severance of the Canadian Lodges from the G. L. of England.*" The Article is too long to insert at length; but your Lordship can doubtless procure it. It commences by saying, "So important do we consider the step which has been taken, *and we consider justly* by our Brethren in Canada, &c."

And concludes as follows:

"Not get an answer from the G. Secretary's Office, quotha!
 "Bah! as well get the G. M. to attend upon any public
 "Masonic occasion, except, indeed, the nomination to office
 "of some Whig *protégé* is mooted—then indeed he is punctual.
 "The presence of our excellent Brother Dobie, with
 "his sound practical head and talents for business, has been
 "the shield of Ajax over and over again, behind which *the*
 "*incapables* Lord Zetland, Brother White & Co. have been
 "glad to cower. Their dullness it is which has lost us
 "Canada, and for which the West Indies is already threatening
 "Severance—let the system go on, and the developement
 "of Masonry will shortly be reduced to two Individuals, the
 "placeman and the toady; whilst the G. L. will in all probability
 "be removed to Newmarket, the only place whence
 "no plea operates to withhold our G. M."

I pass to the *April Number* for 1856, and refer you to the Leading Editorial, headed "*Our Duty*,"—a very lengthy one and devoted to encouragement of Independence, and condemnation of your Lordship and the G. L. I quote one sentence.—

"Are we so stultified in our toadyism that nothing but
 "rank in our Grand Masters will serve our turn. Do we love
 "the Head of Gold so much that we ignore altogether the
 "tottering incapacity of the feet of Clay?—If personal influence
 "in Society is needed for the benefit of the Craft, is

“ it now so scant of Noblemen, that we are obliged, for the
 “ say of the thing, to put up year after year, with the present
 “ Grand Master, who, these very evils greatly prove as it is
 “ notorious also, *never exerts himself for the Craft at all.*”

I pass on to the *May No. for 1856*, and find in a Leader, headed “ *Toadyism*,” and calculated to bring into contempt the English Craft at large, the following words :

“ Let ‘ *palman qui meruit ferat*’ be the practice, as it is
 “ the principle of the Craft. We should then hear no more of
 “ large Lodges of scientific men, who meet to eat and drink,
 “ yet never devote an extra day to give in public the lucubra-
 “ tions of their studious hours, as if hospitality were the only
 “ Masonic virtue,—of Provincial Grand Masters never visiting
 “ their Lodges,—of cliques in the latter,—of Colonies alienating
 “ themselves from our banner on account of *G. Secretary’s*
 “ *discourtesy or G. Master’s inattention*,—of the latter’s fond-
 “ ness for quadrupeds absorbing his interest in Masonic
 “ bipeds ;—in a word, of all those anomalous disorders, which
 “ render the Craft at present a by-word to the world for
 “ convivial antiquarianism, instead of the synonyme for intel-
 “ lect and honour.”

I pass to the *June No. for 1856*, and there appears an Editorial, entitled, “ *Masonic Reform*,” as follows :

“ We had hoped, indeed, that the sullen endurance, which
 “ ill-concealed the ever and anon out-spoken dissatisfaction at
 “ his tenacity of office, would have induced Lord Zetland to
 “ have relinquished a charge *which he is* evidently incompe-
 “ tent to fill, &c.”

Examine the *October, November and December Nos. for 1856*—read the reports of the proceedings of G. L., and the accounts in detail of the disturbances and uproar that occurred,

and your Lordship will agree with what is there said :—
 “ Here followed a scene such as has rarely, if ever, been
 “ witnessed within the solemn and ceremonial precincts of
 “ the Supreme G. L. of England.” I will only mention, as
 a corollary, that W. Brother Warren, the Publisher, appears
 to have taken a leading part therein, and was consequently
 an eye-witness. Your Lordship ignored the G. L. proceedings
 of the **1st October, 1856**, *altho’ of vast importance to
 Canada, and no official record exists. Therefore I would
 make special reference to page 789 of the November No. for
 1856*, for there your Lordship will find a memorable speech
 made by the Earl of Carnarvon on that occasion, in which he
 demonstrated to G. L. *that your proposals to Canada could
 not be satisfactory.* In fact, my Lord, I could refer you to
 every No. of the Magazine, for some article calculated to give
 rise to disgust, and I assure you that the sayings and doings
 at home, there recorded, have had their influence in convinc-
 ing the Craft here, that it should govern itself, and is better
 able to do so. I could comment on the vacillating conduct
 of the G. L. as respects the “*Mark Degree*,” and how little
 it cared for the proper standing of English Masons, who are
 debarred from entering Foreign Chapters, unless first obligated
 and “*healed*,” as it is termed—a degradation surely. But I
 should wear out your Lordship’s patience, as I am tired my-
 self. I will only add, that the F. M. Magazine, in May,
 1857, was *authorized* by you to publish proceedings, and ever
 since there seems to have been a kind of Masonic millenium !
 Banquets and speeches have been unceasing, and after all the
 contumely poured upon your Lordship’s devoted head, *we
 read*—that at a Festival held in Oxfordshire, under the
 auspices of the Apollo Lodge, at which you met nearly all of
 the G. L. malcontents, the Chairman declared :

“ That the Craft owed you a deep debt of gratitude for
 “ having, during your long and benignant sway, promoted the

“ interests of Free Masonry *far beyond any Grand Master*
 “ that ever sat upon the Throne !”

My Lord, the Brethren here did not feel any less respect for you, in consequence of the offensive articles I have quoted, but such a sudden change as the last sentiment betrays, (in the United States it would be quaintly termed—“ *Jumping Jim Crow*,”) and the general revolutionary tone of the Organ of English Free Masonry, might well set them at work to consider, whether they were wise to remain under the control of a Sovereign Body, which in one month lavishes contempt upon, and in the next lauds above all his Predecessors, their Chief Ruler.

I beg your Lordship will receive this long communication with a kind spirit. You will understand us better, by getting plain Truth, and you have our most fraternal and respectful regards. Once more, I thank you warmly for your kindness and courtesy to me, and hoping that you and yours may long be spared to each other, for much happiness with restored health,—

I have the honor to be,

My Lord and M. W. G. Master,

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

T. DOUGLAS HARINGTON,

Past P. G. M., &c.

To

The Right Honorable

The EARL OF ZETLAND,

M. W. G. Master,

&c., &c., &c.

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## POSTSCRIPT—3RD FEBRUARY.

My Lord, I have just received a *Supplementary No.* of the London F. M. Magazine for *December, 1857*, in which is graphically described another of those extraordinary debates, which appear to be *the rule*, not the exception, in conducting the business of the G. L. of England. His R. H. The Prince of Prussia narrowly escaped being an eye-witness of what seems to have occurred, and hearing the Acting J. G. W. (Brother Beadon) express his hope that the G. L. would not be made a *Bear Garden*! The Memorial or Address from the "*Antient G. L. of Canada*" is reported to have been read, and entered on the Minutes *as read*, which is a change from the fate of other documents sent from this Country, altho' no action was taken by the G. L. It is not for the purpose of asking your Lordship's attention to the foregoing; but to request you will refer to *Page 1066* of that Supplementary No., and peruse a letter signed "*M. Furnell, P. G. M. of North Munster*," that I have made this addition to my already lengthy letter. I will take the liberty of placing an extract on this sheet, premising that the entire letter is devoted to the explanation of the course pursued by the G. L. of Ireland, and her reasons for recognizing the "*Independent G. L. of Canada*." Brother Furnell writes as follows :

"Laying aside all feelings of disappointment or pique, the G. L. of Ireland approached the discussion of the question with a very calm, dignified and unprejudiced spirit. *Its first step was to communicate with the G. L. of England and Scotland*, asking what decisions had been upon the subject. After waiting for a reply until it could not, in common courtesy, longer delay its answer to the Canadian Declaration, the G. L. of Ireland was obliged to set about making up its mind on the matter, without knowing how the G. L. of

“England and Scotland had acted, or would act. We had sought the aid of their opinions, but had never deemed ourselves incompetent to draw our own conclusions,—a difficult task, perhaps ; but we did not shrink from it.”

After pointing to the formation in 1717 of the G. L. of England as one precedent—and herself, and other G. L. as all having been established by the suffrages of the very bodies they were to rule, Brother Furnell proceeds to say :

“We also could not but feel that the Canadian Lodges ought best to know their own wants and their own resources ; and that if the moment had arrived when they had attained strength and maturity to support themselves, it was an *idle* and *childish* attempt to keep them in a state of pupilage and dependence.”

Again :—

“We therefore resolved to accede to the proposition of our Brethren,—because it was both reasonable, and, as we deemed, *consistent with usage*, so far as usage existed to guide us.”

And lastly :—

“The measure was not taken by the G. L. of Ireland without the *cordial assent* of its G. M., the Duke of Leinster, who had *carefully considered* the question before it was submitted to the G. L. by his Deputy G. M., and fully concurred in the decision.”

My Lord, I have added this Postscript because, at *Page 10*, I have called your attention to Ireland. The prompt action of the G. L. there, as shown above, contrasts forcibly with the supineness of England, and the circumlocution evinced by the latter throughout.

T. D. HARINGTON.

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